

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

April 14, 2004

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense  
United States Department of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld,

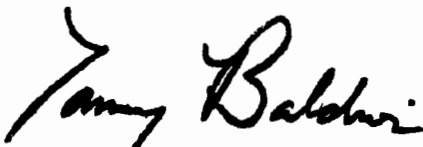
We are writing on behalf of members of the Madison and Milwaukee based 32<sup>nd</sup> Military Police unit, Wisconsin National Guard, who are currently deployed in Iraq, and their families who are awaiting the unit's return to our state.

Numerous family members of the 32<sup>nd</sup> MP unit have contacted us to express their concerns regarding a possible extension of their deployment in Iraq. According to the families, many members of the unit were waiting in line to board an airplane on Easter Sunday, with their military rotation in Iraq completed and their final destination being the United States. As they were waiting, unit members were literally pulled out of line and told that their combat stay will be extended 120 days.

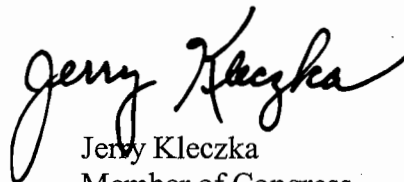
The 32<sup>nd</sup> MP unit reported for duty on March 15, 2003, with an original mobilization period of up to one year. They were deployed as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom on May 8, 2003. While in Iraq, their deployment was extended to one year "boots on the ground." Although deployment in harm's way is extremely difficult for all of our nation's military personnel, it is particularly hard for members of the National Guard, their families, employers and communities.

We face a difficult challenge in Iraq and it is clear that you must examine all deployments in light of operational requirements. However, this National Guard unit has served in Operation Iraqi Freedom for an entire year with great courage and commitment. Because of the harmful impact of extended deployment of these citizen soldiers, we ask that you not extend their deployment and return them home as scheduled.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin  
Member of Congress



Jerry Kleczka  
Member of Congress

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

April 14, 2004

The Honorable Les Brownlee  
Acting Secretary of the Army  
United States Department of Defense  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

VIA FACSIMILE

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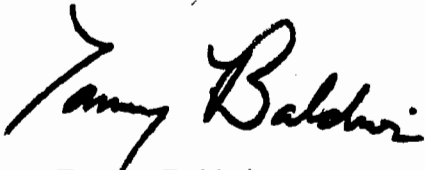
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## House of Representatives

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Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez  
Commander, Operation Iraqi Freedom

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear General Sanchez,

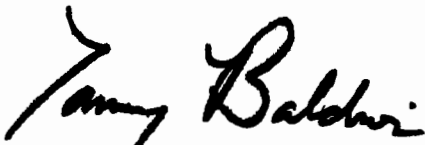
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